

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

UNCLAS STATE 170964

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, RP

SUBJECT: LOPEZ/OSMENA CASE

FOLLOWING INCLUDED IN JACK ANDERSON'S COLUMN, JULY 19:

QUOTE PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT FERDINAND MARCOS REFUSED TO GUARANTEE SAFE PASSAGE TO THE DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW OF A DEAD FORMER FRIEND SO THEY COULD ACCOMPANY THE REMAINS OF HER FATHER FROM THE UNITED STATES TO THE PHILIPPINES.

QUOTE EUGENIO LOPEZ SR., ONCE MANILA'S MOST POWERFUL PRESS LORD AND A MARCOS SUPPORTER, WENT INTO EXILE HERE WHEN MARCOS BECAME A DICTATOR IN 1972. WHEN HE WAS DYING OF CANCER HE BEGGED MARCOS TO LET HIS THREE SONS IN THE PHILIPPINES VISIT HIM ONE LAST TIME.

QUOTE NOT ONLY DID MARCOS DENY THE REQUEST, HE REFUSED TO PROMISE SAFE RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES FOR LOPEZ'S DAUGHTER, PRESY, AND HER HUSBAND, STEVE PSINAKIS. THUS, ONLY LOPEZ'S WIDOW AND A FOURTH, YOUNGER SON WENT BACK TO BURY LOPEZ. END QUOTE

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